

REMARKS

The Rejections Under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

The claims are amended to further clarify what was intended.

The Office Action alleges that the phrase “the additive comprises a cationic resin as a principal component” is confusing. The specification on page 9, lines 2-4, discusses that the additive can contain other reagents, such as, for example, stabilizing agent or antiseptic. The Office Action also alleges that it is unclear in what sense the resin is intended to be principal. The specification on the same lines referred to above teaches that other reagents can be added “to the extent that they do not spoil the effectiveness of this invention.” The meaning would be clear to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The First Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

The Office Action alleges that claims 2-6 and 10-15 are unpatentable over Endo.

Endo teaches an ink receiving layer comprising hydroxypropylmethylcellulose. See column 3 lines 64-67. On column 4, lines 13-19, Endo teaches that the ink receiving layer additionally optionally comprises an N-vinyl pyrrolidone resin. In a further embodiment, as an additional optional ingredient, a cationic resin is taught. See column 4, lines 35-45. Endo also teaches other optional ingredients in the ink receiving layer in a laundry list of many options without specific motivation for the selection of any one specific component therefrom. See column 11, lines 60-67.

Furthermore, the coating liquid composition for the ink receiving layer of the present invention optionally contains at least one additive selected from, for example, dispersing agents, crosslinking agents, thickening agents, anti-foaming agents, wetting agents, fluorescent dyes, coloring materials, anti-static agents, preservatives and ultraviolet ray-absorbing agents.

Endo never teaches a cationic resin obtained by the reaction of at least a secondary amine, an ammonia, an epihalohydrin and a cross-linking agent. Instead Endo teaches a composition that may as an optional component contain an already formed cationic resin and may as an optional component contain a cross-linking agent. No teaching or suggestion is present in Endo that the resin is prepared in the presence of a cross-linking agent.

The Second Rejections Under 35 USC § 103


The Office Action alleges that claims 2-6, 8, 12 and 13 are unpatentable over Chen.

The same issue is present with respect to this reference as with respect to the one above. Chen never teaches a cationic resin obtained by the reaction of at least a secondary amine, an ammonia, an epihalohydrin and a cross-linking agent. Instead, at most, a composition is taught which contains a cationic polymer that is already formed (see abstract for example) and in a further embodiment, an additional cross linking agent is present. See column 3, line 55 to column 4, line 18. Chen teaches that the composition that contains the cross linking agent also contains binders among other things and that the "cross- linking agent is used to cross-link the binders." See column 4, line 12. There is no suggestion that the cationic resin is cross-linked.

Thus, Chen does not teach or suggest the present invention.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



Csaba Henter, Reg. No. 50,908
Anthony J. Zelano, Reg. No. 27,969
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Attorney Docket No.: TAKIT-162

Date: March 29, 2004

K:\takit\162\Reply Mar 2004.doc